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# Letter dated 20 January 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the serious incidents in Côte d'Ivoire, issued on 19 January 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gerhard **Pfanzelter**
Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

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## Annex to the letter dated 20 January 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

## Statement on the serious incidents in Côte d'Ivoire issued on 19 January 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union resolutely condemns the orchestrated acts of violence that have been taking place in Côte d'Ivoire, particularly in Abidjan, since Monday 16 January, and also the attacks on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) contingent. These acts constitute a serious impediment to the peace process.

The European Union calls on all political players to bring these unacceptable acts to an end immediately and requests that all necessary measures be taken to ensure the safety of the international and diplomatic presence.

The European Union, which is a member of the International Working Group, reiterates its full support for Prime Minister Konan Banny with a view to the successful completion of the transition process initiated by the African Union in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1633 (2005), which is binding on all parties in Côte d'Ivoire. The fundamental aim of this process is the holding of uncontestable elections in Côte d'Ivoire by 31 October 2006.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the stabilization and association process.